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MYSURU Friday 26th June 2020
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First Ashada Friday at Chamundi Hill

Rituals held but Temple closed for devotees

Mysuru, June 26 (MTY&BCT)- For the first time in more than 100 years, the Sri Chamundeshwari Temple atop the Chamundi Hill was closed today for devotees on the first Ashada Shukravara (Friday). Traditional rituals were performed to the presiding deity this morning amidst Police and priest presence but there was only a handful of them. The hallmark of Ashada Shukravara is the surging crowds starting from 3 am till late into the night. Lakhs of people congregate at the Temple during the auspicious Ashada month and on each Ashada Friday, there will be crowd numbering more than 50,000. Today, there were only around 30 people in the temple premises including the priests.

Ashada, considered inauspicious for celebrating any functions like weddings, house-warming, Upanayana, Aksharabhyasa is, however, considered most auspicious for worshipping Gods and Goddesses. The reigning deity of the city Goddess Chamundeshwari is the most appealing deity and as a result, lakhs of people throng the Hill Temple during Ashada Shukravara.

Every year, the Mysuru District Administration, the Temple authorities and the Police rise to the occasion and fully gear up for the preparation to make it smooth for the devotees to have darshan of the Goddess. This year, however, due to COVID-19 pandemic, the Administration banned public entry fearing community spread of the virus.

Even in the next Ashada Shukravara that will fall on July 3, 10 and 17 and also on the day of Vardhanti (Goddess Chamundeshwari's birthday on July 13), entry of devotees will be banned.

With COVID cloud hovering over the celebrations, the Temple doors were opened at 4.30 am today and rituals were conducted under the leadership of 'Pradhana Agamika' (chief priest) Dr. N. Shashishekar Dikshit and 'Agamika' Deviprasad. Rituals like Mahanyasa Poorvaka Abhisheka, Rudrabhisheka and Archane were performed along with Mahamangalarathi. Today, the Goddess was decorated as 'Nagalakshmi.' The temple doors were closed at 7.45 am after the traditional armed salute by the Police.

The Utsava Moorti of the decorated deity was taken in circumambulation around the sanctum sanctorum.

(See RITUALS on page 6)

16 Containment Zones in Mysuru district

- Jockey Quarters Policemen demand mass COVID tests to ward off fear
- All 58 Policemen in contact with Nanjangud positive case test negative

Policemen lining up for COVID tests at Jockey Quarters in city this morning.

Mysuru, June 26 (LNY&BCT)- In view of 22 positive cases reported yesterday and the total number of positive cases reaching 220, the Mysuru District Administration has declared 16 Containment Zones across the district.

They are Paparam Street, Nazarbad; 2nd Stage, 3rd Main, 4th Cross, Udayagiri; Raj Mandi Ashok Road, Mandi Mohalla; Kuruburu, Mooguru Hobli, T. Narasipur; near Gupta Stores, Rajeevnagar; Town Police Station, Nanjangud; VKC Sandals, 4B KIADB Industrial Area, Nanjangud Taluk; Chamalapura Hundi, Nanjangud; Bismilanagar, Bannur; Venkateshwara Nagar, Devegowda Circle; Kurju Beedi, Ravandoor, Periyapatna Taluk; Thapovana Apartment, Vishweshwaranagar; Chikka Kamarahalli, Periyapatna Taluk; Maradihalli, Periyapatna Taluk; B-Block, Jalapuri; 2nd A Cross, Sharadadevinagar.

(See ZONES on page 6)

STAR PUNCH By Satish Acharya

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Friday 26th June 2020

Rs. 4 crore water tax collected after lockdown

Mysuru, June 26 (RK&BCT)- After lockdown, the Vani Vilas Water Works (VVWW), the water supply arm of the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) has collected water tax worth Rs. 4 crore from March 2020. The tax collection process has been speeded up to generate revenues, said VVWW Executive Engineer P. Nagaraja Murthy.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, he said that in all the 65 Wards of the MCC, pending water tax amounts to Rs. 180 crore and the VVWW staff are doing daily rounds to collect pending dues. When the lockdown was announced, only Rs. 79 lakh tax was collected. "Our staff, despite the threat from COVID-19, went to houses and institutions and provided bills to the consumers. As a result, we have been able to collect Rs. 4 crore taxes till now," he explained.

The VVWW has set a target of Rs. 6 crore by June end. "We have purchased and customised two vehicles exclusively for tax collection and have named it Cauvery and Kabini. These vehicles are equipped with Point of Sale machines so that water tax can be collected and receipts issued on the spot," Nagaraja Murthy said.

Each vehicle can carry eight persons from the VVWW and if the dues are pending for a long time, such connections will be disconnected. A defaulter list has been prepared and armed with the list, the vehicles will land at doorsteps of citizens to collect dues, he added.

There are over 1,70,000 legal water connections in Mysuru city and about 15,000 illegal connections. Of the Rs. 180 crore pending water tax money, Rs. 46 crore is the interest on the dues and Rs. 40 crore is pending water tax dues from many Govt. institutions. "We have written letters and sent reminders to the Govt. institutions urging them to pay up their dues," he said.

CBSE's 10th, 12th exam cancellation welcomed

Sudhakar Shetty

Mysuru, June 26- The decision by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) to cancel the remaining Class 10 and Class 12 exams has been welcomed by CBSE, ICSE & State Board Private School Managements Association (CISPMAM), Mysuru President Sudhakar Shetty.

The CBSE Board told the Supreme Court yesterday that the scheme has been set up where Class 12 students will be assessed on the basis of last 3 exams. Students will also have an option to opt for exams that are to be conducted later.

In a press release, Shetty stated that the decision will provide great relief to the parents, schools and children who are tormented by the COVID pandemic. "The same yardstick could have been applied by the State Government to the SSLC exams and we had requested accordingly to the Government. But the Government decided to go ahead with the exams," Shetty added.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

It seems that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath are working out home remedies for the problem of providing employment. While the PM's Garib Kalyan Rozgar Yojana is confined to rural infrastructure, the UP CM is looking at the prospect of employment in the manufacturing sector in the State. If the manufacturing and service sectors in the sprawling cities cannot create enough jobs for the ever growing large pool of the workforce, the PM wants to find whether he can turn to the large hinterland itself to create a vast economic zone. Modi and the BJP started out in 2014 with the idea of shifting as many people as it is possible to the cities to shift the burden on land. There was a move to amend the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act of 2013 in 2014. But the move hit the road block early on, and it was put on the backburner. It seems that Modi is turning to the villages for the economic miracle which he wants so badly for himself and for the country.

— Parsa Venkateshwar Rao Jr, in Deccan Herald

NEWS SPARKLERS

Drone photographer captures 'Lenin' Shaped Forest

Tyukalinsk: Russian photographer Slava Stepanov was planning a business trip to the city of Omsk, when he remembered a fascinating Google Earth satellite image captured in that region a few years earlier. Taking a day off from work, Stepanov decided to drive to the town of Tyukalinsk in Siberia and look for a very common-looking grove on the outskirts of the settlement. Planted in straight rows, typical for man-made forests, the pine grove only revealed its secret when Stepanov released his drone to get a view from high above.

Stretching for 300 meters from one side to the other, with letters reaching 8.2-meters-high was the name "Lenin" spelled in Cyrillic characters. Although the exact origin of this mythical Soviet geoglyph is unknown, Stepanov says that it was most likely the result of a Communist anniversary celebration from the 1970s.

Hard to swallow

Tokyo: Pictures of Japan's square watermelons is doing rounds online, but one never knew that these weird-looking fruit are basically inedible. Perfectly sized and shaped fruits are big business in Japan and it's not uncommon for the rarest and most coveted varieties to sell for thousands of dollars a piece. But while most expensive fruits can be savoured by the recipient, there is one that has a purely decorative purpose – square watermelons.

Developed about 50 years ago by farmers in Takamatsu, Japan's Kagawa Prefecture, as a way to raise their community's profile among the country's farmers, square watermelons have become both an iconic symbol of Japan and a very valuable commodity. It's not uncommon for these unusually shaped watermelons to be sold for around $100 a piece, much more than what a regular watermelon of the same variety would fetch. Rather peculiar, especially considering that square watermelons aren't even edible, let alone tasty.

Complaints of irregularities at Music Varsity

Regional Commissioner's Office deputes staff to review files

Mysuru, June 26- Following numerous complaints by students and some staff of Karnataka State Dr. Gangubai Hangal Music and Performing Arts University in city, alleging rampant irregularities and disorder in the Music University, the Additional Chief Secretary of the Higher Education Department has asked the Regional Commissioner's Office in Mysuru to conduct an enquiry and submit a report.

Accordingly, the Additional Commissioner (Administration and Development) in the Regional Commissioner's Office at Mysuru, had deputed its office staff to visit the University for two days (June 24 & 25) and go through the relevant files. These staff --- Y.S. Subramanya and R. Shantaram, both Shirastedars, M.R. Shakuntala, Accountant, H.K. Ramprasad, First Division Assistant (FDA) and B.R. Kemparaju, Second Division Assistant (SDA) — have been asked to submit the findings along with supporting documents to the RC Office on June 26, according to a press release.

Former KSOU VC welcomes Government decision on Distance Education courses

Dr. Ramegowda

Mysuru, June 26- Dr. N.S. Ramegowda, former Vice-Chancellor of Karnataka State Open University (KSOU), Mysuru, has welcomed the Government's decision to allow only city-based KSOU to run Distance Education courses in the State.

In a press release, Dr. Ramegowda said that following public demand, the State Government set up Karnataka State Open University in Mysuru over 20 years ago. Now the Government's declaration that only KSOU can run Distance Education courses among State-run Universities is a welcome move, for which he is thankful to the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister, who is also the Higher Education Minister, he said.

Private Hospitals to reserve 50% beds for COVID patients

Dr. Yoganna takes exception to Government directive

Dr. Yoganna

Mysuru, June 26- Strongly opposing the Government directive asking Private Hospitals to reserve 50 percent of beds for COVID-19 patients, Suyog Hospital Chairman Dr. S.P. Yoganna said that the Government directive will push Private Hospitals to the brink of closure.

In a press release, Dr. Yoganna said that reservation of beds can lead to mix up of COVID-19 and non-COVID-19 patients, which is disastrous for both the patients and the Hospital staff.

Observing that the Government, instead of asking Private Hospitals for beds, can convert all its Hospitals into designated COVID-19 Hospitals, he said that the Government, if necessary, can take Private Hospitals on rent and turn them into COVID Hospitals.

Dereliction of duty: Notice served on Social Welfare Dept. Official

Mysuru, June 26- Mysuru Assistant Commissioner has served a notice on the Joint Director of Social Welfare Department for dereliction of duty with regard to providing food to COVID designated Hospital patients and Hospital staff and negligence in scientific disposal of food waste. The notice has asked the Official to reply to the same within 24 hours of receiving it.

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

What happens to a frog's car when it breaks down?
It gets toad away.

Today's Currency Rate

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 75.65
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 93.71
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 20.60
1 Euro	= Rs. 84.86

VOICE OF THE READER

A pond and a desert on Ring Road !

Sir,

A pond is created whenever the Ring Road between Hinkal Flyover and Seshadripuram Degree College gets a good rain and it is converted into a desert as soon as the water dries up *(see photos)*.

The water stagnation is because of clogged drain or improper slope for the water to enter the drain. Once dried, it leaves a good amount of fine sand and dust.

Driving through this pond water may splash water on self (if it is a two-wheeler) and others. Whereas, driving on such a sandy road, there is a risk of skidding by two-wheelers.

The scene is repeated whenever it rains around that area. Concerned officials may look into the problem and find a permanent solution to avoid any inconvenience and mishap to road-users.

— Dr. S.V.N. Vijayendra,
Traffic Warden & Member, City Traffic Advisory Committee
Roopanagar
24.6.2020

UGD workers stop work, stage protest

Demand to make them permanent employees

Mysuru, June 26 (PM&KS)- Urging the Government to consider them as Pourakarmikas, provide facilities being given to Pourakarmikas and to make them permanent employees, UGD workers, under the banner of Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) Permanent and Contract Employees Association and UGD Workers Association, stopped their works and staged a protest near the Office of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) yesterday morning.

There are 231 UGD workers and as permission was denied to stage protest by everyone, only 20 UGD workers staged a protest on behalf of others by maintaining social distance while the rest stayed at a park nearby.

The protesting UGD workers later submitted a memorandum to Deputy Tahsildar Borappa at the DC Office.

Meanwhile, MLA L. Nagendra, who arrived at the spot, also received the memorandum from the protestors and assured them of talking to the Government and help them, following which the protest was withdrawn.

Former Mayor Narayan, who is also the President of Karnataka State City Corporation, Municipal Council and Town Council Pourakarmikas Mahasangha, MCC UGD Workers Association Working President Kumaraswamy, Pourakarmika leader N. Mara, MCC UGD Workers Association President Palani and others took part in the protest.

KRRS to stage Statewide demonstration from June 27

Mysuru, June 26 (RKB&DM)- Strongly condemning the amendments to APMC, Karnataka Land Reforms and Seed Acts and as well as the privatisation moves of the Power sector, the Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha (KRRS) and Hasiru Sene will stage demonstrations in front of all Gram Panchayat (GP) offices in the State from June 27 to 30.

Announcing this at a press meet at Patrakarthara Bhavan here yesterday, KRRS President Badagalapura Nagendra said that as a first step, the demonstrations will be held in front of 1,000 GP offices, in which several farmer associations, Dalit groups and Communist Parties will take part.

Stating that earlier, the KRRS had staged demonstrations in front of the houses of Legislators and Deputy Commissioner's Offices across the state, Nagendra said that the Statewide protest from tomorrow will be the third phase of demonstration against the Government, which he accused of acting against the interests of farmers.

Seminar on June 27

Continuing, he said that a Mysuru region seminar on the ill effects of the amendments to Acts will be held at Kyathanahalli in Pandavapura Taluk, the native village of late farmer leader and MLA K.S. Puttannaiah on June 27, in which several intellectuals, social activists and farmer leaders will take part. The seminar will be followed by an interaction with peasant community, he added.

Nagendra also demanded free treatment for all COVID-19 patients of the State.

KRRS office-bearers Lokeshraje Urs, Saragur Nataraj, Vijayadevaraje Urs, P. Marankaiah & Chandregowda were present.

Obituary

P. Venkataswamy

Mysuru, June 26- P. Venkataswamy (67), former Additional Superintendent of Police and residing in Bengaluru passed away yesterday at a private hospital there. He had served as the Additional SP of Mysuru for about two years.

He leaves behind two sons Mithun Shilpi, a Police Inspector in Bengaluru and Adhikar Shilpi, a Software Engineer at Bengaluru and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at his native place Aranakatte village, Hiriyur taluk in Chitradurga district today.

Guest Lecturers seek release of pending salaries

Mysuru, June 26 (PM&KS)- Guest Lecturers, under the banner of Karnataka State Guest Lecturers/Guest Teachers Horata Samithi and All India Democratic Youth Organisation (AIDYO), urging the Government to release their pending salaries and announce a special relief package for them, staged a protest near the Deputy Commissioner's Office on Thursday morning.

Stating that there were 14,564 Guest Lecturers working in 413 First Grade Colleges in the State, they said that the University Grants Commission (UGC) in January 2019, issued a circular stating that Rs. 1,500 be paid per teaching hour or Rs. 50,000 per month as salary to a Guest Lecturer, but still the Guest Lecturers who have completed their NET, K-SET or Ph.D are being paid just Rs. 13,000 per month and the remaining are paid Rs. 11,000 per month. Also, some Guest Teachers are being paid Rs. 7,500 per month, they said and added that they have not received salaries since five months.

Stating that it was very difficult to lead life with such a meagre salary, especially at the time of COVID-19 pandemic, they urged the Government to release a special COVID relief package to them.

AIDYO State President Umadevi, District Secretary T.R. Sunil, Guest Lecturers Ramanna, Mahadevaiah, Ravindra and others were present.

Animal adoption continues at Zoo

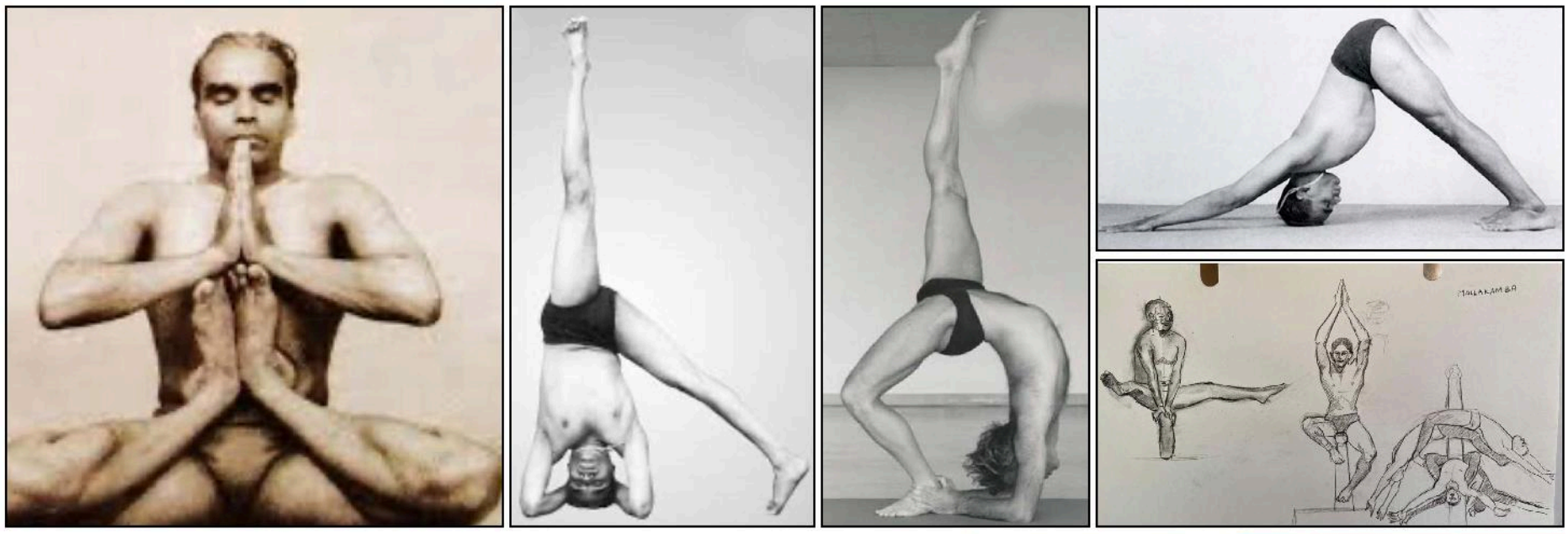
Mysuru, June 26- The following persons have adopted the animals of Mysuru Zoo under 'Adoption of Animals' scheme by paying the adoption fee:

C. Chandrakala, Mysuru - Flamingo and Common Ostrich - Rs.30,000; S. Nemichand Barala, Mysuru - Love Bird - Rs.1,000; B.N. Sundaresha Moorthy, Bengaluru - Red Avadavit - Rs.1,000; G.L. Rajesh, Bengaluru - Rhesus Macaque - Rs.5,000; H.M. Bhojarajan, Mysuru - Lion-Tailed Macaque - Rs. 10,000; Soumini Vijayasarathy, Mysuru - King Cobra - Rs. 3,500; Sudha Vijayasarathy, Mysuru - Ring-Tailed Lemur - Rs. 5,000; B.V. Kuushi, Mysuru - Rainbow Lorikeet - Rs. 2,000; EWS Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd., Mysuru - Asian Grey Hornbill - Rs. 5,000.

Water Theme Park to come up on KRS Road near Vani Vilas Water Works

A tribute to Rajamate Kempananjammanni Vani Vilasa Sannidhana

Rajamate Kempananjammanni



Mysuru, June 26 (RK&BCT)- A Water Theme Park with a statue of Mysuru's First Rajamate Kempananjammanni Vani Vilasa Sannidhana will come up on KRS Road near Vani Vilas Water Works (VVWW) opposite CFTRI compound.

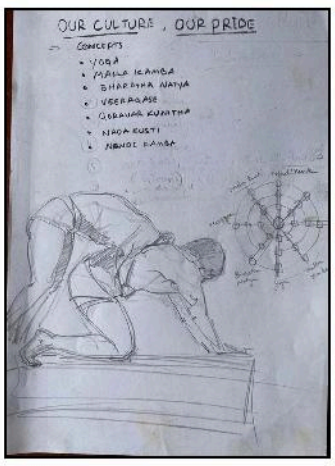
The Theme Park will be established by the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) and tenders have been floated to identify a suitable consultancy firm to prepare a Detailed Project Report (DPR). The consultancy firm's tender amount is Rs. 4 lakh.

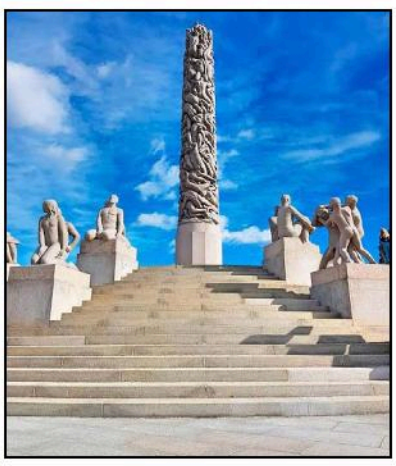
The Park will come up in an area of two acres and an estimated Rs. 2 crore has been earmarked for the purpose. The statue of Kempananjammanni Vani Vilasa Sannidhana in front of Vani Vilas Water Works will be a befitting tribute to the late Maharani who was a driving force behind many developmental works in the Mysuru region including the Krishna Raja Sagar (KRS) Dam.

Mayor Tasneem held discussions with the officials of VVWW at the renovated auditorium recently where the officials presented a power-point presentation on the design, extent, facilities and attractions of the Theme Park.

The Theme Park will host traditional Yoga postures and a giant statue of Kempananjammanni. There are plans of erecting a giant pillar and a statue of Goddess Cauvery on top of the pillar. Models of lake development and rainwater harvesting will come up and the children will have a park and play area inside the Theme Park. Also the Theme Park will be connected to the Office of VVWW through an overbridge.

Mayor Tasneem told *Star of Mysore* that the Theme Park will be a major attraction for tourists where they can come to the Park after seeing the Rail Museum nearby. VVWW Executive Engineer P. Nagaraja Murthy said that Rs. 2 crore has been reserved in the MCC





Budget. "We have called for tenders worth Rs. 4 lakh to identify a suitable consultancy firm to prepare a Detailed Project Report. We have plans to execute the project within one-and-a-half years. Sculptor Arun Yogiraj has expressed interest in carving the statue of Kempananjammanni and also carve other sculptures of Yoga to be displayed at the Theme Park," he said.

Kodagu-born Paediatrician completes Fellowship in USA

Mysuru, June 26 (BCT)- Kodagu-born Mathanda Reema Ramesh has completed her Fellowship in Paediatric Haematology and Oncology from Cleveland Clinic, USA.

The Fellowship programme provides an outstanding opportunity for the future Paediatric Haematologist-Oncologists to learn to diagnose and treat a broad range of common and rare blood disorders and cancer.

Located at Cleveland Clinic main campus, the Paediatric Haematology-Oncology & BMT Department plays a significant

Mathanda Reema Ramesh

role in promoting the outstanding recognition of this world-renowned tertiary referral centre.

Reema Ramesh is the daughter of Mathanda A. Ramesh and Beena, residents of Virajpet, Kodagu. She is the sister of Dr. M.R. Aiyappa who works as a General Physician and Diabetologist at Brindavan Hospital, Mysuru.

Mathanda Ramesh has been the President of Kodagu District Central Cooperative Bank.

Reema studied in Vijaya School, Kadanga, Cauvery School, Virajpet and Coorg Public School, Gonikoppal. She completed her MBBS at Kasturba Medical College, Manipal and MD in Paediatrics from University of Southern Illinois, USA.

Mother-son go missing

Mysuru, June 26 (KS)- A 32-year-old woman and her three-year-old son have gone missing from Mandi Mohalla in city. The missing are Ushabai, wife of G. Harish and their son Arosh, residents of Kabir Road, 3rd Cross in Mandi Mohalla.

Ushabai, after a quarrel regarding the children, packed her clothes and other things which were given from her parents, left the house along with her son Arosh to her parents' house on June 22 at about 4.30 pm in an autorickshaw and has since gone missing, according to the complaint lodged by Harish.

Those having any information about the missing mother-son

may contact Mandi Police Station on Ph: 0821-2418113/313, Mob: 98458-62184 or call Police Control Room on Ph: 0821-2418339, according to a press release.

NITI Aayog lauds city lecturer for feeding stray dogs during lockdown

Mysuru, June 26 (BCT)- As a countrywide lockdown was imposed to contain the spread of Coronavirus, many noble people stepped forward to help and feed the distressed public. But a city-based lecturer displayed her Good Samaritan spirit by feeding stray dogs and not let them starve at the time when these speechless creatures are left with no source of food.

NITI Aayog @NITIAayog · 27m
Not all heroes wear capes
Some feed the strays!
Meet @HariniNivéditha and the 3000th dog fed by her under the animal feeding drive initiated by @Karnataka_DIPR and @IndianRedCross.
Share stories of champions with us using #CoronaWarriorsIndia.
: @HariniNivéditha

The lecturer Nivedita Harini stepped up in the time of adversity by helping the canines on the streets and her work has attracted the appreciation of NITI Aayog that has tweeted her noble work on its official Twitter handle and said "Not all heroes wear capes. Some feed the strays." The tweet came after Nivedita completed feeding 3,000 stray dogs. She went on to feed 4,621 strays for over 54 days.

Nivedita teaches Chemistry at Sharada Vidya Mandira and she donned the role of a Corona Warrior to feed the strays. She joined hands with Mysuru District Administration, Information and Publicity Department, Indian Red Cross Society and has accomplished this feat that has gained her national recognition.

Dogs she loved very much and wanted to feed them daily. This made her apply voluntarily when the Information and Publicity Department Director and senior IAS Officer P. Manivannan called for volunteers for social service including feeding the strays. Every day, Nivedita used to feed the dogs for over four hours across the city after preparing milk and protein-mixed food and also purchased pedigree from her contacts to feed the strays. Two hours in her day during lockdown used to go in preparing food and another two hours used to be spent going around the city.

She did not miss even a single day. She fed them on alternate days after the lockdown was lifted when the strays had something to eat. "During initial days of COVID-19 spread, there was a misinformation campaign that pets and strays will cause the virus to spread. I was heart-broken and only later it was clarified that they don't spread the virus. I took on the mission to feed the dogs and I am glad that I was able to be of service to the speechless beings," she told *Star of Mysore*.

"Usually street animals depend on roadside eateries and volunteers who regularly look after them. The lockdown prevented this. I noticed the dogs hanging about in anticipation of food whenever people pass by. They had become all skin and bones. This moved me and I took a plunge," she said.

Nivedita began feeding a pack of dogs near her home and soon decided to find more hungry dogs and feed them. She travelled across the city with food containers and fed the hungry lot. She dipped into the sums she had saved. Later, help poured in once her noble act was noticed. "Savitha Nagabhushan of People For Animals (PFA) helped me get pedigree and later many volunteers, my friends and colleagues pitched in with rice and dog food," she said. Every day, she used to follow one route – Chamundipuram, Ittigegud, Dasara Exhibition Grounds, Circus Grounds, Nazarbad and Vishweshwaranagar Industrial suburb. "Initially, the dogs never used to come when I offered food. It took some days to gain their trust. Later when I went near them, they used to come running for food," Nivedita revealed.

Post-lockdown, even when the hotels and restaurants were opened, she continued to feed strays every alternate day. Now she is taking the same route every Sunday. "I am planning to continue this and I have no intention of stopping it though I am digging into my savings," she vowed.

A Comprehensive Plan on the anvil for Development of Fisheries: Minister

Mysuru, June 26 (SPN&DM)- Minister for Muzrai, Fisheries and Inland Water Transport Kota Srinivas Poojari said that the Government was working on a Comprehensive Plan for the development of Fisheries, both in the Coastal region and Inland areas.

Srinivas Poojari

Speaking to presspersons after holding a progress review meeting of the Departments coming under his Ministry at the Regional Commissioner's Office here on Wednesday, Poojari said that the Government is planning to distribute Credit Cards to fishermen just as the Union Government is issuing Kisan Credit Cards to farmers.

"The process of issuing Credit Cards to fishermen in the entire State, including those in Mysuru District, will be set in motion in the coming days," he said.

Continuing, the Minister said that the Department is gathering inputs on how 25,000 water bodies in the State in which fishing is being carried out can be further developed with the involvement of unemployed youths and the jobless poor.

Asserting that the Govt. is maintaining transparency in the distribution of grants to beneficiary fishermen, he directed the officials to maintain transparency in all aspects of their functioning.

Stating that the Government would not interfere in fishing contracts in respect of lakes that come under Gram Panchayats, he said that it is the responsibility of the PDOs and the Taluk Panchayat EOs to ensure that the Government does not lose revenue on this account.

Stringent action on illegal fishing

Replying to a query on illegal fishing in Taraka and Kabini backwaters that has been allegedly going on for years, Poojari said that a probe will be ordered into the issue. Stringent action will be taken against those found indulging in illegal fishing in violation of terms and conditions of the contract, he added.

Renovation of temples

Referring to Muzrai Department, Poojari said that he has directed the officials to expedite renovation works of temples after obtaining permission from the Archaeology Department.

Pointing out that all temples which record annual revenue earnings of more than Rs.25 lakh will be elevated to A-grade, he directed the officials to upgrade Tripura Sundari Amma temple at Mugur in T. Narasipur taluk from the existing B-grade to A-grade.

Memorandum by farmers

Earlier, several farmers led by Karnataka Sugarcane Growers Association President Kurubur Shanthakumar, who is also the Chief Convenor of Karnataka Rajya Raitha Virodhi Kaide Horata Samithi, presented a memorandum to Kota Srinivas Poojari urging the Government to repeal the amendments made to Karnataka Land Reforms Act.

Fishermen too submit memorandum

Fishermen from Kabini backwaters, under the leadership of Karnataka State Inland Water Fishermen Co-operative Society President Jagadish Gowda and former Director of Karnataka State Co-operative Federation Channappa, presented a memorandum to the Minister urging him to cancel the fishing contract given to Kabini Tribal Fishermen Co-operative Society and to permit local fishermen to carry out fishing in Kabini.

Maintaining that fishermen from about 35 villages along Kabini backwaters have been rendered jobless due to the contract, they sought permission to carry out fishing in Kabini backwaters, just as local fishermen in Cauvery and Hemavathi River basins have been allowed.

MLAs S.A. Ramdas, L. Nagendra, B. Harshavardhan, N. Ashwinkumar and H.P. Manjunath, DC Abhiram G. Sankar, ZP CEO Prashanth Kumar Mishra, Assistant Commissioner Venkataraju were present.

Voluntary lockdown in Hunsur from 3 pm to 7 am; Sundays fully closed

Kodagu too fixes trade timings from 6 am till 2 pm every day; Sundays shut

Hunsur/ Madikeri, June 26 (BCT)- As the dreaded Coronavirus is rapidly spreading its tentacles in both city and rural areas, people are coming forward to voluntarily shut shop or a voluntary lockdown without depending on the Government to officially declare a lockdown.

The latest to join the bandwagon is Hunsur town with a fairly crowded population where the traders have decided to go for a voluntary lockdown every day from 3 pm to 7 am and be fully closed on Sundays. This is their way to prevent the spread of the virus.

The decision will be implemented from June 26 (today) till July 5 as decided at a meeting held at Hunsur Town Municipality Office in the presence of Tahsildar Basavaraju and Hunsur MLA H.P. Manjunath.

Representatives of merchants and owners of commercial properties, hotel owners, liquor shop owners, roadside vendors and vegetable and fruit vendors attended the meeting and decided to follow the example of traders from Channapattana, Ramanagara and Kanakapura. The meeting decided not to have a full lockdown till July 5 as students will be severely inconvenienced as the SSLC examinations are going on.

As per the decision, there will be sale only in the morning from Monday to Saturday and all the traders will close by 3 pm. On Sundays, they will be fully closed. The Kodagu Chamber of Commerce too has taken a decision to voluntarily close all shops and business establishments from 2 pm while continuing trade from 6 am to 2 pm. Chamber of Commerce President M.B. Devaiah said that the half-day rule will be applicable across the District till July 4.

As the Kodagu District Chamber of Commerce has taken this decision, the local Chamber of Commerce in other areas have been authorised to reduce the trade timings or go for full lockdown depending on the intensity of COVID-19 spread.

16 Containment Zones

A Containment Zone in Sharadadevinagar, Mysuru.

(Continued from page 1)

Tweaked norms

The State Government has now tweaked the criteria and definition of Containment Zones. While it was initially 100 metres for individual houses where a positive case was reported, it is now a smaller area. The authorities are no longer declaring an entire Municipal Ward as a Containment Zone. Instead, the public health authorities only seal a house or apartment where a COVID-19-positive patient is found.

In early April, Containment Zones extended to 5 kms from the house where a positive case was found. An intensive buffer zone of 1 km was marked out for house-to-house screening. This reduced to 1 km, 200 mts and 100 mts over time.

In the wake of a positive case in an apartment block, instead of containing the entire block, the particular floor and the floors above and below are cordoned off. In the case of a standalone house segregated with walls or fencing, the house alone is contained.

Policemen demand mass testing

Following many Karnataka State Reserve Police (KSRP) personnel testing positive in Jockey Quarters in city, all the Policemen and their families are demanding COVID test from authorities. A team of 24 KSRP Policemen had been to Padarayanapura in Bengaluru on duty and most of them and a few of their contacts tested positive for the disease.

This morning, a team of health officials had been to Jockey Quarters to random check Policemen if they have symptoms of cold, fever and breathlessness. Hearing about the tests, many Police personnel came to the testing venue as early as 7 am and sought mass testing.

The Policemen demanded that as many of their colleagues tested positive, the District Administration must subject everyone inside the Jockey Quarters premises for COVID tests. They told the health personnel that every day they were living in a state of fear and anxiousness as their duty-bound colleagues have tested positive for the virus.

The Policemen requested them for mass testing to ward off fear in the area. The Health Department officials, however, clarified that they only have instructions to test people who had symptoms. The Policemen were asked to contact their higher officers for mass testing.

All 58 Policemen test negative

In a major relief to the Mysuru District Police, all the 58 Policemen, who were primary and secondary contacts of the Policeman from Nanjangud Rural Police Station who had tested positive, have now tested negative. This was disclosed by Mysuru Superintendent of Police (SP) C.B. Ryshyanth this morning.

The Policemen, who were investigating the case of 50 missing .303 bullets from T. Narasipur Police Station, had come into contact with the Nanjangud Rural Policeman who had tested positive. As a result, all the Policemen including the SP and Inspector General of Police (IGP), Southern Range, were under quarantine and their swab samples were sent for tests.

Ryshyanth told the media that all the samples of 58 Policemen tested negative and as such, the Policemen and the Department can breathe easy now.

Rituals held, Temple closed

(Continued from page 1)

In normal days, the idol would be carried around the Temple amidst chanting of mantras, holy nadaswara and drum-beating between thousands of devotees. This year though the music was there, the procession was restricted to the sanctum sanctorum. According to Shashishekar Dikshit, devotees were not allowed to the Temple during Ashada month a century ago or 120 years back due to the outbreak of the Bubonic Plague in Mysuru. "My grandfather used to narrate tales about how the Temple – in Ashada month – was closed during plague and cholera. Today it is closed due to COVID-19. I request all the devotees to pray at home," he said.

All the four entrances to the Chamundi Hill were closed today and even the entrance through steps was closed as barricades were laid. Policemen were posted to prevent the entry of people.

DCP Dr. A.N. Prakash Gowda supervised the arrangements. Speaking to reporters, he said that the entry of devotees will be banned on all Ashada Fridays and on Vardhanti Day but rituals will continue.

Mass feeding and Prasadam distribution at all Chamundeshwari Temples in city including the K.G. Koppal Chamundeshwari Temple, Adishankti Sri Bandanthamma Kalamma Devi Temple in Kuvempunagar have been banned along with the entry of people. But the temples have been permitted to perform rituals, he added.

Co-op. Societies

get time till November to hold AGMs

Mysuru, June 26- In the wake of Novel Coronavirus pandemic, the Co-operation Department has extended the deadline for Co-operative Societies to hold their Annual General Body (AGM) meetings for this year till November 2020.

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SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF THE Dry Agricultural Land bearing Survey No.48/4, measuring an extent of 31 Guntas, situated at **Javanahalli Village, Jayapura Hobli, Mysore Taluk, bounded on: East: Survey No. 48/2, West: Survey No.49 , North: Survey No.48/1 and 48/3 and South: Survey No.47.**

Sd/- Dhirendra Kumar R. Mehta
Advocate
Key-Ans Law Solutions
Place: Mysore
Date: 25.06.2020

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No. CSB/CSTRI/14(3)/2019-Stores **TENDER NOTIFICATION** Date: 26.06.2020

Subject: Supply of Multi-end Reeling Machine (6 basin capacity) to STSC, JAMMU - Reg. Approx. Tender Value Rs. 16 lakh

The Director, CSTRI, Central Silk Board, Bengaluru invites sealed bids under two-bid system from reputed manufacturers or their authorized dealers/ suppliers for supply of 1 No. Multi-end Reeling Machinery package (6 basin capacity) without boiler to Silk Technical Service Centre, CSTRI,CSB, Jammu. Interested parties may download the details about the technical specifications, terms and conditions, price schedules from the websites of www.cstri/res.in/www.csb.gov.in/www.eprocure.gov.in

LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF BIDS: 23.07.2020 till 1.00 PM
DATE OF OPENING OF BIDS: 24.07.2020 at 2.00 PM
DAVP: 41109/11/0005/2021 **DIRECTOR**

Central Sericultural Research & Training Institute
Central Silk Board
Ministry of Textiles - Govt. of India
Manandavadi Road, Srirampura, Mysore-570 008
http:www.csrtimys.res.in

No. CSB/RTI/R.85/JRF/2019 Dated 24.06.2020
Phone No. 0821-2361937.
Fax No. 0821-2362845

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW FOR THE POST OF JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW

A walk-in-interview will be held on **10.07.2020 at 9.30 am** for 01 (one) post of **Junior Research Assistant (JRF)** purely on contract basis for a period of 14 months or completion of project which ever is earlier under DBT-CSB approved project **"Discovery of QTL to drought adaptive traits by association mapping in mulberry" PIC01 003 CN:NW2b"** at **Central Sericultural Research and Training Institute, Srirampura, Mysuru-570 008.** Interested can also visit out website www.csrtimys.res.in for details.

Sd/- Director

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